

09/55534

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-61 (Canceled).

62 (Currently Amended). A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising: ~~as active~~ principle a biologically active isolated Tat protein, a fragment thereof or mutant thereof, or a combination thereof, in a non-aggregated and non-oxidized form ~~fragments thereof and/or mutants in combination with a suitable excipients and/or diluents~~ excipient and/or diluent, wherein said Tat protein, ~~fragments and/or mutants~~ fragment or mutant, or combination thereof, 1) ~~enter~~ is internalized by activated endothelial cells or dendritic cells at concentrations, which internalization is determined by incubating the activated endothelial cells or the dendritic cells with 10 ng/ml of said Tat protein, fragment or mutant, or combination thereof, which is labeled with rhodamine and detecting the rhodamine in the activated endothelial cells or the dendritic cells by fluorescence microscopy up to 10 nM and 2) ~~perform~~ performs at least one action selected from the group consisting of the following actions: i) ~~activate~~ activates the proliferation, migration and invasion of Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) cells or cytokine-activated endothelial endothelia cells in culture when said Tat protein, fragment or mutant, or combination thereof, is present at a concentration of 10 ng/ml; ii) ~~activate~~ activates virus replication when added to infected cells as measured by a) the rescue of Tat-defective proviruses in HLM-1 cells after the addition of exogenous protein and/or b) the transactivation of HIV-1 gene expression in cells transfected with HIV-1 promoter-reporter plasmid; and iii) ~~induce~~ induces in mice the development of KS-like lesions in the presence of angiogenic factors or inflammatory cytokines.

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